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SCHOOL & MASS EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

RESOLUTION

The 17th February, 2025

Sub: Implementation of the Aitihya Vidyalaya Scheme.

The School & Mass Education Department has launched the Aitihya Vidyalaya scheme, a focused effort to preserve and rejuvenate heritage Odia-medium government high schools that are over 100 years old. In case, there is no such school in the district, the oldest high school will be considered for implementation of the above scheme. These historic institutions, deeply intertwined with Odisha's educational and cultural legacy, are proposed to be revitalised into Centres of Excellence and Cultural Pride. By revitalizing these iconic schools, renowned for their historic significance and foundational role in shaping the educational fabric of the state in the past, this initiative reimagines them as hubs of academic innovation and cultural pride. By preserving these schools, the programme celebrates Odisha's rich legacy while instilling a sense of identity, pride and belonging among students and communities.

This scheme intended to bridge the past and future, providing students with an education that combines academic rigor with cultural understanding. The scheme leverages partnerships with government bodies, Panchayat Samitis, urban authorities, CSR initiatives, philanthropic organizations and alumni networks to drive improvements in academic resources, cultural preservation and infrastructure development.

The Aitihya Vidyalayas are intended to exemplify Odisha's dedication to merging its rich cultural heritage with a progressive educational vision. It ensures the enduring legacy of these historic institutions, empowering future generations with traditions and values that resonate in a modern context.

2. Intervention under Aitihya Vidyalayas Program

Schools have to be identified by the districts and intimated to the Office of the Panchasakha Sikhya Setu being the Nodal Agency for execution of the Aitihya Vidyalaya scheme.

- The proposed development plan for the AitihyaVidyalayas includes several key infrastructure upgrades and enhancements aimed at Improving both functionality and aesthetics. A multipurpose hall cum auditorium will be constructed, along with a Gallery and Alumni Hall of Fame.
- Additionally, upto three new classrooms will be built and upto three existing classrooms will be renovated to meet the required standards as per actual requirement. Preservation of the old heritage buildings will be prioritised, ensuring that their historical value is maintained.
- Landscaping and ambience enhancement will be carried out, along with exterior development, including internal pathways, ramps, paving and plantation.
- The construction of boundary walls and sports infrastructure will be undertaken as needed.
- Documentation of the school's rich heritage through audiovisual and print media.
- An external technical agency will be engaged to evaluate the project's reports and progress.

3. Key Objectives

- Honor the legacy of heritage schools with world-class infrastructure and innovative educational programs.
- Preserve cultural, infrastructural and social heritage.
- Document historical significance in AV and print formats.
- Celebrate founders, alumni and notable contributors.
- Upgrade facilities for an aspirational learning environment.

4. Implementation Strategy

• Development of School Level Vision Plan and Stakeholders Consultation

Under this programme, School Level Committees will be formed to give inputs for School Level Vision Plan and DPR for each school. Among others, the committee shall include an expert planner, architects, engineers, teachers and educationists, preferably the alumni of the same school. The constitution of the committee will include:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| i. Chairperson, SMC/SMDC | Chairperson. |
| ii. Head Teacher (1Nos) | Co-Chairperson. |
| iii. Alumni Representative (1Nos) | Member |

iv. Teacher Representative (1Nos)	Member
v. JE From Works Department	Member
vi. Architect / Civil Engineer (1No)	Member
vii. Senior most Teacher (1Nos)	Member Convener

The Committee will undertake consultations with expert agencies, technical institutions and other stakeholders for the development of Vision Plan. The Vision Plan will outline following sub sections:

- About the glorious past of the school and the aspirations for “Vision 2036”
- Current Infrastructure and Preservation of Heritage Building
- Infrastructural development Plan to make it into world standard.
- Academic excellence and Teacher Professional Development.
- Technology enabled school campus.
- School Campus and Sports infrastructure
- Stakeholder’s participation, especially alumni, parents and teachers
- **Development of Project Plans**

Based on the inputs received from the School Level Committee, the Works Department will work with technical experts in the field of conservation and preservation of cultural heritage to make a detailed project report. The DPR will be placed before the District Level Committee of Panchasakha Sikhya Setu for approval.

- **Approval of the Project Plans**

- I. The DPR submitted by the Works Department will be placed before the DLC, Panchasakha Sikhya Setu for approval.
- II. Superintendent/ Executive Engineer Works Department and technical Expert from technical institutions and national / state bodies will be special invitee to the DLC, Panchasakha Sikhya Setu.
- III. The DLC, Chairperson, Panchasakha Sikhya Setu will submit the final DPR to the Office of Panchasakha Sikhya Setu, the vetted proposals will be presented to the Executive Committee of Panchasakha Sikhya Setu for approval of the project plans.
- IV. For discussion on the implementation of Aitihya Vidyalayas plans, the EC, Panchasakha Sikhya Setu will invite following members as special invitees to its committee meetings.
 - Director, Odia Language Literature & Culture Department
 - Director SC & ST Development, Minority and Backward Classes Welfare Department

- Expert/ Architect/ Civil Engineer nominated by Chairperson, PSS
- Technical Experts from Institutions like IIT, Bhubaneswar/ BPUT, if required

V. Fund Release:

- At the outset, 10% of the funds may be released to districts to facilitate the DPR formulation and procurement process. The funds released from the O/o. PSS at 30 lakh per school for 45 schools will be subsumed into this scheme.
- Upon receiving final approval from EC, PSS, the Office of Panchasakha Sikhya Setu (O/o. PSS) will release the remaining funds to the account of the District Panchasakha Sikhya Setu Account for the execution of the work.
- Following the fund disbursement, the DLC, PSS will carry out the implementation of the work in coordination with the Works Department, ensuring that funds are utilized strictly according to the approved plan.
- Funds shall only be utilized for the activities outlined in the approved plan. Any deviations from the planned activities will require prior approval from the State Level.

VI. Execution: Works Department will Execute the project

VII. Social Audit

Social audit at school level shall be carried out by School level Social Auditors (list to be agreed by DLC, PSS). There will be three social auditors for each school.

The composition of school social auditors is as follows:

- Two auditor representing SMC/SMDC/ Alumni Association
- Representative of DEO, preferably retired Head Teacher/ABEO
- Two eminent people of locality/district nominated by DLC, PSS

A Social Audit is conducted to assess whether funds have been spent appropriately and whether the Aitihya Vidyalaya programme has had a tangible impact. The findings of the audit are shared publicly, ensuring transparency and accountability in the implementation of the programme.

VIII. Asset Creation and Maintenance:

a. All Civil, PH, Other Infrastructure:

There shall be annual comprehensive maintenance & contingent Maintenance plan. For repair/maintenance, HM in consultation with SMC/SMDC can undertake the activity.

b. Electronics/IT Assets:

Purchase of IT/electronics assets of reputed brand will cover the asset under warranty for 2-3 years and procurement should be done through due process. Contract with AMC

partner for IT/electronics assets with a reputed firm shall be made. AMC of electronics /IT assets shall cover update of software, update of antivirus, review of fire wall protection.

c. Furniture:

Procurement of furniture will be done from reputed firms/brands as per the Govt. guidelines. Furniture of solid wood, iron/steel, fibre should be encouraged.

d. Sports Assets :

Play field shall be maintained in convergence with the MGNREGA for schools located in those areas. The SMC/SMDC in consultation with the Head Teacher & the teacher concerned shall be responsible for the upkeep and maintenance.

e. Fire Safety:

Lightning proofing of the school infrastructure, provision of earthing and installation of MCBOs as per the requirement shall be installed.

5. Implementation Responsibility:

i. Role of the School HM

1. Formation of School Level Committee :

The School Headmaster (HM) will be responsible for forming the school- level committee, as outlined in point no. 4. This committee will primarily be tasked with the initial preparation of the school-level plan.

2. Pre and Post Stage Documentation:

The Headmaster (HM) will be responsible for maintaining both pre- and post-documentation of this initiative, including photographs, meeting proceedings, audiovisual materials and other relevant records.

3. Infrastructural Implementation:

The Head Teacher of the school should report to DLC, PSS on monthly basis on the proper implementation and functionality of the infrastructural needs as per the approved plan.

4. Academic Improvement Plan:

The Head Teacher must ensure the effective implementation of the academic plan in alignment with the instructions provided by the State. Additionally, teachers should maintain a comprehensive academic improvement tracker for students, enabling the measurement of learning progress, especially in these Aitihya Vidyalayas. This approach will facilitate the development of targeted strategies to enhance future learning outcomes.

ii. Role of the District Level Committee

The District Level Committee will support, supervise and facilitate the implementation process of the Aitihya Vidyalayas Programme in each identified school. The DLCs will

review the progress of work in each quarter with the implementing agency and ensure timely completion of work.

iii. **Role of Panchasakha Sikhya Setu**

Support in development and implementation of the Plan:

1. Fund Disbursements and Technical Facilitation:

Panchasakha Sikhya Setu will facilitate the disbursement of funds to the selected schools and whenever necessary, offer technical assistance in both the development and implementation of the Aitihya Vidyalayas scheme. A dedicated technical team from Panchasakha Sikhya Setu will conduct regular site visits to monitor progress, address challenges and ensure that the implementation aligns with the approved plan. This continuous support will help maintain the quality and effectiveness of the project, ensuring timely execution and adherence to the intended outcomes.

2. Documentation of the History :

Panchasakha Sikhya Setu will undertake an Audio Visual and Print Documentation of the rich and glorious past of the school. The documentation process will include the various stages of the school such as its inception, establishment, prominent alumni, contribution from and to the community etc.

3. Documentation of Alumni :

Along with the glorious past, Aitihya Vidyalayas are the alma mater to many inspirational individuals. In order to preserve the rich alumni base of these schools Panchasakha Sikhya Setu will create an alumni database of each heritage school. It will include alumni members from different batches. The database will be created in digital format with proper batch wise documentation.

4. Mentorship Programme :

Panchasakha Sikhya Setu will facilitate virtual as well as physical engagement, (whichever possible) of the Alumni Mentors with the Schools. To facilitate this the school will organize regular events, campaigns etc. that involves all the key stakeholders. This will be an opportunity for development of academic environment of the school by utilizing the skills, knowledge, expertise and experience of the Alumni.

5. Capacity Building of Teachers, Head Teachers and Alumni:

In order to enhance the school development process, it is essential to develop the capacity of the school to function as an autonomous and independent learning institution in the long run. The capacity building of the head teachers and alumni will act as a critical support for the sustainable development and impact of the programme in long run.

6. Role of S&ME Department

The School & Mass Education Department will function as Nodal Department for the Aitihya Vidyalayas Program and make provisions for fund schools and technical human resources. The Department will develop policies and procedures for implementation of Aitihya Vidyalayas and guide the O/o. Panchasakha Sikhya Setu in its implementation.

Order: Ordered that the Resolution be published in an Extraordinary issue of the *Odisha Gazette* for general information.

Also ordered that the copies of the Resolution be forwarded to the Secretary to His Excellency the Governor of Odisha / all Departments of Government / All Heads of the Departments / All Revenue Divisional Commissioners / All Collectors / Accountant General (A & E), Odisha, Bhubaneswar / All Ministers of Government of Odisha.

By Order of the Governor

SHALINI PANDIT

Commissioner-*cum*-Secretary to Government